

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 038994  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:JWHITING:JJ

APPROVED BY AF:DD-OLEN

AF/E:RPOST

D/HA:JLCARL

D/HA:LARTHUR (SUBS)

INR:WJONES (SUBS)

SCA:JCARTER (SUBS)

S/S - MR. GAMBLE

-----192154 115399 /61

O 192123Z FEB 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 038994

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, SREF

SUBJECT: DEFECTION OF SENIOR ETHIOPIANS

REF: A. ADDIS ABABA 966; B. MONROVIA 1174; C. ADDIS 1036

1. DEPT. SHARES EMBASSY ADDIS CONCERN THAT PMAC NOT OBTAIN IMPRESSION USG SOMEHOW PLOTTING AGAINST IT BECAUSE FORMER ETHIOPIAN OFFICIALS WHO HAVE BROKEN WITH REGIME MAY APPEAR HERE. WE DO NOT INTEND TO ACT WITH HASTE OR WITH PUBLICITY RE FOUR RANKING INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE RECENTLY BROKEN WITH PMAC.

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2. THE STATUS OF FOUR INDIVIDUALS IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. ACCORDING TO FRIENDS, FORMER ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN, ATO MILLION NEQNIQ, IS NOW IN WASHINGTON AREA WITH WIFE AND FAMILY. HE IS AVOIDING PRESS, NOT PLANNING TO DENOUNCE PMAC OR OTHERWISE CALL ATTENTION TO HIMSELF. HE ENTERED US ON B-2 TOURIST VISA WHICH EXPIRES APRIL 10. HE

IS SEEKING ACADEMIC OR FOUNDATION EMPLOYMENT IN US AND HIS WIFE IS SEEKING EMPLOYMENT WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN US. HE IS NOT SEEKING ASYLUM AT THIS TIME.

B. THUS FAR DEPT. HAS NO INFORMATION TO ADD TO BONN 2590 REGARDING FORMER ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR TO FRG BEKELE ENDESHAW. WILL ADVISE WHEN INFO AVAILABLE.

C. AS YOU AWARE FROM NAIROBI 1772, CAPTAIN MELESSE MARU NOW IN FRG BEING PROCESSED FOR CONDITIONAL ENTRY UNDER 203(A)(7) OF INA. THIS WILL REQUIRE 2-3 MONTHS.

D. PLANS OF FORMER ETHIOPIAN FONMIN KIFLE DESCRIBED MONROVIA 1174.

3. FOR ADDIS: RE REF C, DEPT. APPRECIATES PROBLEMS FACING EMBASSY IN DEALING WITH EPMG ON THIS MATTER. WE PREFER THAT DISCUSSION OF WHEREABOUTS/PLANS OF FONMIN KIFLE AND OTHERS BE LIMITED TO MOFA BUT, IF YOU CONSIDER IT NECESSARY, SECURITY OFFICIAL MENTIONED REF C MAY BE TOLD THE FOLLOWING. EMBASSY AUTHORIZED TO SAY THAT WE AWARE THAT KIFLE IS IN WEST AFRICA, WE HAVE HEARD THAT HE DOES NOT PLAN TO RETURN SOON TO ETHIOPIA, AND THAT WE ARE NOT RPT NOT AWARE THAT HE HAS ANY IMMEDIATE PLANS TO TRAVEL TO THE UNITED STATES. (FYI: WE WOULD PREFER NOT RPT NOT TO CONFIRM FACT HE IS IN MONROVIA OR REVEAL THAT WE HAVE TALKED WITH HIM BUT YOU MAY DO SO IF, AT YOUR DISCRETION, IT WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE TO WITHHOLD THAT INFORMATION). SHOULD KIFLE DECIDE HE  
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WISHES TO TRAVEL TO US AT SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE, WE WOULD, OF COURSE, CONSIDER HIS CASE IN THE LIGHT OF CIRCUMSTANCES THEN PERTAINING.

4. IN THE EVENT MOFA RAISES ISSUE OF PRESENT OR FUTURE PRESENCE IN US OF ONE OR MORE OF THE FOUR INDIVIDUALS IN CONTEXT US-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS YOU MAY, AT YOUR DISCRETION, DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING:

A. REMIND THEM OF MANY PERSONAL, ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL TIES RESULTING FROM LONG US-ETHIOPIAN FRIENDSHIP WHICH MAKE IT NATURAL THAT THEY SEEK TO RESIDE HERE; (B) SAY WE ARE NOT SEEKING TO ATTRACT TO US INDIVIDUALS WHICH FOR THEIR OWN PERSONAL REASONS DO NOT WISH TO RETURN TO ETHIOPIA AT THIS TIME, BUT THAT WE CANNOT JUSTIFIABLY BAR THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE OTHERWISE QUALIFIED FOR ENTRY INTO US; (C) INFORM EPMG THAT USG HAS NO INTENTION WHATSOEVER TO PERMIT OUR COUNTRY TO BECOME A BASE OF OPERATIONS FOR ANTI-EPMG ACTIVITIES; (D) SAY THAT US

BELIEVES PRIVATE DECISIONS OF INDIVIDUALS SHOULD NOT HAVE ANY ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR RELATIONS; (E) ACKNOWLEDGE, IF ASKED, THAT WE ARE AWARE THAT FORMER AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN HAS ENTERED THE UNITED STATES ON A TOURIST VISA;

F. WE NOT AWARE OF PRESENCE OF ANY OTHER HIGH-RANKING EPMG OFFICIALS IN U.S.

5. WE ARE PREPARING PRESS GUIDANCE WHICH WILL BE CONSISTENT POINTS A-D, PARA 4.

6. FOR MONROVIA: WITH REGARD FUTURE PLANS OF KIFLE, DEPT. BELIEVES HE SHOULD BE TOLD: (A) WE ARE SYMPATHETIC TO HIS PLIGHT AND PREPARED TO CONSIDER ANY FORMAL REQUEST HE MIGHT MAKE TO COME TO THE UNITED STATES; (B) EPMG AWARE THAT HE IS IN MONROVIA AND HAS ASKED ABOUT HIS FUTURE TRAVEL PLANS; OUR RESPONSE TO WHICH IS AS STATED  
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PARA 3. (C) AS HE AWARE, USG SEEKS TO MAINTAIN EFFECTIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH PRESENT ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT AT A TIME OF DIFFICULTY FOR ETHIOPIA; (D) BECAUSE OF HIS RANK AND INFLUENCE, KIFLE'S TRAVEL TO US IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE UNDOUBTEDLY WOULD BE MISINTERPRETED BY PMAC AND CAUSE DIFFICULTIES IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS; (E) US WOULD PREFER THAT HE DELAY FOR A FEW MONTHS ANY PLANNED TRAVEL TO US, DURING WHICH TIME HE COULD OBTAIN TRAVEL DOCUMENTS AND PERHAPS OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT IN US (REQUIRING NORMAL VISA) OR ELSEWHERE; (F) SHOULD HE SEEK "ASYLUM ROUTE," RATHER THAN TRAVEL WITH NORMAL DOCUMENTATION AND VISA FOR EMPLOYMENT IN US, HE WOULD NEED TO GO TO ONE OF OUR EUROPEAN POSTS HAVING INS OFFICE (ATHENS, ROME, VIENNA, PARIS, FRANKFURT, BRUSSELS) AND APPLY FOR CONDITIONAL ENTRY AS OUTLINED IN DEPT. CIRCULAR A-5895 OF SEPTEMBER 10, 1975, RELATING SPECIFICALLY TO ETHIOPIANS.

7. PLEASE USE EXDIS SLUG ON FUTURE MESSAGES.  
HARTMAN

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PAGE 01 STATE 038994

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RSPST:PS

APPROVED BY AF:DBBOLEN

S/S:SGOLDSMITH

-----200429Z 015260 /62

R 200420Z MAR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T STATE 038994

EXDIS

FOL RPT STATE 038994 ACTION ADDIS ABABA MONROVIA 19 MAR 77 QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 038994

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7. PLEASE USE EXDIS SLUG ON FUTURE MESSAGES.  
HARTMAN

UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INSTRUCTIONS, PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, WELFARE & WHEREABOUTS, POLITICAL ASYLUM, DEFECTION, AMBASSADORS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 19-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JWHITING:JJ  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 5353f2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 6  
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**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 77 ADDIS ABABA 966, 77 MONROVIA 1174, 77 ADDIS ABABA 1036  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3272154  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DEFECTION OF SENIOR ETHIOPIANS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SREF, ET, (KIFLE WODAJO)  
**To:** ADDIS ABABA MONROVIA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/5353f2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009